

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 PORT M 00428 290232Z
ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 OES-07 EB-08 INT-05 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY
TO SECSTATE 3152
INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

UNCLAS PORT MORESBY 0428

TOKYO - FOR REGIONAL FISHERIES ATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIS, GL, AS, PP
SUBJECT: U.S. SHRIMP FISHING

REF: STATE 072824

1. EMBOFF TALKED TO PETER WILSON, AMERICAN IN CHARGE OF THE FISHING DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES, GPNG, ABOUT SHRIMP FISHING. WILSON IS VERY ACTIVE IN PROMOTING FISHING INVESTMENT IN PNG BUT IN THIS CASE ALSO PESSIMISTIC ABOUT SHRIMP OPPORTUNITIES. THERE IS ALREADY A SMALL, 12 TRAWLER, FLEET FISHING THE SHELF ON THE PAPUAN GULF. WILSON DID NOT FEEL THIS SHELF COULD SUPPORT ADDITIONAL SHIPS. MUCH WILL DEPEND ON HOW "DEEP" IS DEEP-WATER OPERATIONS. GPNG FISHERIES' OFFICIALS HAVE NO INFORMATION ON SHRIMP RESOURCES BELOW 100 METERS. IF US SHIPS CAPABLE OF FISHING DEEPER THAN 100 METERS, WILSON MIGHT BE INTERESTED.

2. GPNG HAS ALSO CARRIED OUT SOME STUDIES ON SHRIMP FISHING ON THE NORTH COAST, THOUGH MOST OF THIS HAS BEEN DONE FROM SMALL TRAWLERS FISHING IN SHALLOW WATER. THESE STUDIES ARE AVAILABLE, IF NEEDED. GENERALLY, HOWEVER, UNCLASSIFIED

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WILSON WAS NOT TOO OPTIMISTIC ABOUT POTENTIAL IN THESE AREAS, EVEN THOUGH HE EXPRESSED A WILLINGNESS TO MOUNT JOINT RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS. IF NEEDED, POST WILL BE HAPPY TO RESEARCH THE ISSUE FURTHER. INFO ON "DEPTH" WOULD BE USEFUL.
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